



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 16, 2013

CONTACT: Megan Bush  
(202) 225-3201

**Rep. Gary Miller's Statement on House Vote to Repeal the  
President's Misguided Health Law**

*Cites concerns over the law's impact on families and small businesses amid weak economic growth and unacceptably high unemployment in San Bernardino County*

Washington, D.C. – Today the House of Representatives passed H.R. 45, to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). Congressman Miller issued this statement following today's vote:

"Skyrocketing costs have put quality health coverage out of reach for millions of hard-working American families and small businesses for far too long," said Congressman Miller. "Lack of access to affordable, quality health care options leaves families on the hook for massive medical bills, burdens hospitals with higher uncompensated care costs, and puts small businesses at a recruitment disadvantage with larger employers who are able to provide health benefits."

The vote comes after a May report from the Congressional Budget Office estimating that the PPACA will still leave 30 million Americans without health insurance after it is fully implemented.

"The President's health care law includes a number of positive reforms that have bipartisan support," continued Congressman Miller in his response to today's vote. "However, as we approach the start date for some of the law's most complex elements, I have continued to hear from many of my constituents as well as employers in the 31st District who are deeply concerned about the impact the law's mandates, regulations, and taxes will have on future health care costs for working families, our economic recovery, and job growth in the Inland Empire. In recent days, we have heard these concerns echoed by members from both sides of the aisle, including Democrat Senator Max Baucus of Montana – a key author of the law - who has said that implementation of the law could be a 'train wreck.'"

Small businesses – the driving force of job creation in the United States- have begun reducing work hours for employees and putting off plans to expand and hire new workers in anticipation of new costs and regulatory burdens under the PPACA. In an April 2013 Gallup survey of small business owners, 41% said they have held off on plans to hire new workers, while one-in-five have cut employee hours to part-time status. Meanwhile, the Congressional Budget Office has estimated that the labor force will be reduced by 800,000 in 2021 as a result of the PPACA. In

San Bernardino County, of which Congressman Miller's district resides, the unemployment rate is still above 10%, three percent higher than the national average.

Congressman Miller made clear that a repeal of the law would be just the beginning of the effort to fix the nation's health care system, saying, "The ultimate goal of repealing the 2010 health law isn't to return to the old, broken system. It is, however, the first step to enacting real reforms that will bring down costs to patients, expand access to affordable coverage, and protect our nation's seniors without adding to our nation's fiscal woes or making it more difficult for small businesses in the Inland Empire to grow and hire more workers. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the months to come to formulate bipartisan, common sense alternatives that will lead to lower costs, better quality, and more options to meet the health needs of consumers and their families."

###